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In the first place the standard charges, dividends, and wages are set up and then, if the corporation wishes to increase its dividends, it must reduce its maximum net charges. The extra earnings, if there is a labor partnership, are to be divided between the corporation and the labor partners in the ratio of the amount of the standard dividends to the amount of the standard wages. In the end, the whole matter is to be subject to review by the court.

ROBERT ARGYLL CAMPBELL.

**The French Rest Law.** The French commission of labor has proposed (March 12, 1908) a modification of the rest law of July 13, 1906. The commission entertained numerous delegations of employers and workingmen.

Provision is made that no worker or employer may work more than six days a week. A new provision is that the employers and employees of any industry or any similar or related industries by mutual agreement are to choose some one of the modes of application of the seventh day rest allowed by the law. The mode may be determined according to the interest of the industry. The agreement is to cover all the employers and employees of an industry or it may be applied in a given district.

The reason for this provision is that the commission was not willing to accede to the desire of the delegations that the laws be applied between the employer and employee, because within a particular establishment the parties are not of equal strength. When the interested parties fail to choose a mode of application of the law, the public administration will determine upon a necessary measure after separate consultation with employers and employees. The boundaries of industries and districts will be fixed by ministerial orders.

J. HARDING UNDERWOOD.

**Trades and Handicrafts.** A referendum vote in Switzerland taken July 5, 1908, secured an amendment to the federal constitution which gives the federal government power to enact legislation relating to trades and handicrafts. Under this amendment it is expected that the federal government will take action to secure a unification of cantonal legislation relating to conditions of labor, industrial disputes, and related subjects.